

5 South Gray St Edinburgh 1/4/47

My dear Friend

We did think it long till we heard from our friends in America this year, - but thy explanation of the delay in sending off the parcel of Belsham accounts for it - and is exactly what happened to us - We made great exertions to get our box for the Fair sent off by the same Steamer that dear Wm L. Garrison sailed in - even denying ourselves the pleasure of attending some of the last meetings he had here - and had it hastily packed and dispatched from our house in good time - but owing to delay and carelessness somewhere it was not shipped - and when we thought it was half seas over - got word that it was still lying in L Pool - much to our chagrin - We were greatly pleased with the amount realized - but are ready to think some communication must have gone astray as thou mentioned thy intention of sending us a longer and more particular account suitable to read to a gathering of Friends - should it yet come we shall be very glad to have it. - for

our Monthly Meetings are well attended and great interest taken in every information that is read from your side the water. - I am very glad to hear that your Societies have again invited George Thompson. - If he is able to accept it, his visit would no doubt be useful and I trust his life would be safer than when he was with you before. - But he is much engaged with the case of the Rajah of Larrah - and now that it is beginning to gain, he will not be likely to abandon it. - One point for which he has been labouring, has been carried by a small majority in his favor, and he will wish to follow it up closely with more. However if he should go to America, and you still think our contributions of work as needful, I trust we shall not relax in our industry - though many of our hands have been busy for sales in different places in this Country, to raise money for the relief of our starving population. - There was one in this City last week held in the Moore Hall at which after paying all expenses about £1400 will be cleared. - We could not expect to do anything like that for Anti Slavery pur-

posed - This was patronized by a great many of our
titled Aristocrats who would neither contribute nor
purchase - if got up in opposition to the sentiments
of the Leaders of the Free Church. - He avenges we know
not what unexpected changes may take place even
in the sentiments and doings of these Free Church
Leaders - There is much agitation going on at
present and they will soon experience such a load
of pressure upon them both from within and with
out their own Church as must crush their fra
gile and empty arguments in favor of slave -
holding - and slaveholding Christianity - and their
defenses of Church fellowship with slaveholders.
The Free Church Anti Slavery intend to hold a
large public meeting previous to the Meeting of
their General assembly - and they have engaged
the Music Hall for the 12th of May next - They
are getting up a Petition also from their own
members to the Assembly - very many of whom
we believe will sign it who have not yet dared
openly to avow their sentiments. -

But it is high time I should thank thee for thy two
letters and also for the Liberty Bell, which keeps
up its character well both in contents and out
ward appearance. - We are very grateful for the
supply sent to Edinb - and we who have been favored

to have copies specially addressed to us will lend
them as widely as we can among our Anti-Sla-
very friends. - This we also do with the "Standards"
and "Liberators" - besides reading long extracts from
them at our meetings - But we don't approve of
private letters being printed in these papers, ^{especially} with
the writers names in full - They fall into hands
in this country which makes it very unpleasant
to the writers of these letters. - I am sure Eliza Wigham
had not the slightest idea of ^{ever} seeing her family's
private letter to W. L. G. - again - as it might have
been differently worded, though there is nothing in
it but what is believed to be true. - Than enquire
who she is? she is my husband's daughter and
the other Eliza, is Eliza Nichols on the sister of
Sarah Wigham who is the wife of John Wigham Jr.
my husband being John Wigham Senior -
The two Johns are first cousins - The Father
of J. W. Jr. was the senior but he has been dead
a number of years - and the others still retain
the distinctive appellation of Jr. & Senior - We live
within 5 minutes walk of each other and are on
terms of the closest love & friendly intercourse -
I have also received a copy of the Mass. A. S. Society's Annual
Report. for which through thee I wish to thank E. d.
Sumner Quincy - It is beautifully written and most in-

decreasing, giving us it does an Epitome of Events
which have occurred on both sides of the Atlantic -
during one of the most important years of the
Anti Slavery agitation - events which will remain
matters of frequent reference - and remembrance
for many years to come. -

We feel sorry to say Farewell to dear Frederick
Douglass - he has gained many warmly attach-
ed friends on this side of the Atlantic - It
is a long time since he left Edinb^g and then
we hoped he might return before leaving finally.
The last day he was with us was partly spent
in writing his letter to Dr Cox - and who could
but admire - that one who had been deprived
of the means of Education and every right of
man for so long - should be enabled to write with
such Truth force and general ability in reply to
one who is set up as a leader of the people in
Religion & morals - and yet would thus wantonly
misrepresent and try to injure the character
& usefulness of one whom his Creator has unquestion-
ably fitted & called out of the pit of Slavery to pre-
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that the Negro is not inferior in any point of
mind or heart - but capable of towering far above
his enslavers in Religious & Moral stature -
Thos Frederick will be preserved humble and
faithful & persevering in his endeavours to as-
sist in breaking the fetters of our brethren and sisters
in your land. - We shall watch with deep interest
his future career whenever he may be settled - and
wish him every success in his honest wish to pro-
vide for his ^{own} family - while he is also pleading
for the whole family of man. -

I have just read a note from our good friend
H C Wright. He is in Dublin but intends being
in Glasgow next week. - he is not strong, but
much better than he has been great part of
the winter and talks of returning to America
soon if he get no worse. - He is in great con-
cern about the Dublin Relief Committee receiving
large Contributions from the American Slave
States to feed the starving Irish - and thinks they
should refuse to be the almoners of this money -
so does a minority of the Relief Committee and
so does Wm Foster. - but the majority are for

using it. - The A. S. Societies in some places are al-
ready preparing to remonstrate with them against
retaining it - but there are many of a contrary
opinion - thinking it is a very different case from
the Free Church - who went to Slaveholders to ask
the money - and when found fault with for doing
stand up boldly in defence of Slaveholding and
fellowshipping Slaveholders. Still there can be
no question that great part of these contribu-
tions are the price of human beings - and their
wages kept back by fraud - I do hope the Com-
mittee will act rightly in the matter. - We
were told yesterday that another £500 has
just been received from the Southern States
by the Free Church - perhaps sent now to keep
them quiet over next Assembly. I hope they
will not be able to do that. - We (the Ladies Soci-
ety) are preparing a remonstrance to the Assem-
bly - and we hear of some other places also doing
the same -

I have run on a great length but must ask
thee to excuse this disjointed gossiping letter, and
hoping to hear from thee soon remain with

Dear love thy affectionate friend
Jane Wigham -

Our Eliza is from home at present - she has been visiting
her relations in Newcastle & neighbourhood and today
intended to go to Darlington to spend a few days with
dear Elizabeth Pease. - who is far from well though

Maria Weston Chapman

Boston U.S.

Jane Wigham
from
1847
Jane Wigham

better of late - Please when opportunity offers
give my love to W L Garrison & James R Buffum -
We have many connecting links now to bind
us to you - Eliza Burritt is another noble man who
is now in Scotland and with whom we are greatly
pleased. but we hope yet to see more of him -